

SCHOOL AND CHURCH.

A movement for Episcopal government is gaining strength in the Lutheran Church. All the pastors in the eastern (Pa.) Conference have declared in favor of bishops.

—Sunday is very largely a working day, like the rest of the week, in Boemia, but an earnest movement to make the first day of the week a day of rest has been started there.

—The Presbyteries of the Southern Presbyterian Church have been requested by their assembly to express their opinion respecting the prohibition, in their Confession of Faith, of the marriage of a man with his deceased wife's sister.

—The following excellent compendium of what a house of worship should

—So strict are the rules of the Russian orthodox church that the grand requiem service on the second anniversary of the assassination of Alexander II falling on the year in the first week of Lent, a solemn, or festive, being permitted by the holy synod during the first days of the Lenten fast.

—Tooro College for Jewish boys and girls is to be soon opened at Newport, R. I. It will be under the direction of the Rev. J. V. Smith, D. D., and of professors selected from the most learned Jews in the country. The project has the support of the most prominent Jewish ministers in the United States.

The American Tract Society forwarded during its last financial year \$1,029 to foreign mission stations; \$1,820 to cash, \$1,156 in electricity; and \$2,474 in publications printed at the Tract House. Its valuable publications are issued not only in English, but also in German, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, Welsh, Danish, Swedish, Norwegian, Dutch, Finnish and Hungarian.

Patriotic Irish pupils in Boston were given a lesson in the history of English sovereigns as taught by the repetition in concert of the well-known rhymes beginning "First William the Norman, then William his son," and ending with "God sent them Victoria: may she long be the last," after caught dropping the words "God sent them Victoria: may she live!"

—A writer in the Boston *Herald* sharply criticizes the present common-school system of that city, which he calls the "new departure." "Under this order of things," he says, "the spelling book and mental arithmetic were banished from the schools. All ranking by per cent. and classification was ignored and virtually abolished, a practice which the most distinguished teachers, in all time, have found most essential, under judicious arrangement, to intellectual growth and successful

—It is claimed by some collector of facts that the first almanac was produced in the year 1460. And it has been handed down to the present year with even its raciest jokes still intact.—*Puck*

A dispatch from Orange says: "J. Jackson, while chopping in the woods was struck by a falling tree and had his back broken in three places. His recovery is doubtful." We should think it might be somewhat improbable.

—The Hartford Post says: "A man worth \$60,000 blew out the gas in his room at a New Hampshire hotel the other night and was too dead the next morning to enquire for his boots." It would, we venture to assert, have affected

—A lecturer, discoursing on the subject of "Health," inquired: "What use can a man make of his time while waiting for a doctor?" Before he could begin to answer to his own inquiry, some one in the audience cried out: "He can make his will."

—Her companion: "Here I've been talking for half an hour," exclaimed an auctioneer, "and I haven't got an offer." "Half an hour, indeed?" murmured an elderly maiden. "What's half an hour to many long years, and still no hope of an offer." —*Boston*

—An old bachelor who wanted to ingratiate himself with a rich widow, presented her with a lap-dog, saying:

"I have trained him so perfectly that he will eat off your hand." "Eat off my hand?" exclaimed the waiter, "and you don't want my hand cut off, and you don't think of getting it in the way."

"—Kitty, dear," cried the lover, as he yearned hungrily over the back gate, "you are the sum total of my heart's calculation, and though I hoped to gain by your addition, you set me nothing but a loss." "I am glad to sigh for you," said the old man, solved the arithmetical harange by footing him up the alley. — *Boston Post.*

—In a New York boudoir:—"Of course you was at the Vanderbilt ball."

"O yes, of course I were." "Weren't them people horrid?" "Just too horrid for anything. I never did see no more of them. I run over afore and after."

Microscopic Land-Sale.

A unique sale took place recently in the Treasurer's office. It was like a slow muzzle race, each bidder endeavoring to see who could secure the smallest portion of land. The lot of land which was incumbered by taxes and a couple of mortgages. The bidders were T. J. Perles and Henry Herman, and the bidding commenced at a certain number of feet, and finally finished by being knocked down to him by the amount of \$100,000 (\$79,000, 000, 000, 000, 000, 000).

000,000,000,000th part of the lot. The price of the scrap of dirt was \$90.76. The land was sold for taxes, and the law governing the matter is found in Section 24 of Chap. 16 of the Charter. "The Treasurer shall sell on the day and at the place designated in his notice all tracts and lots, or parts thereof, upon which the taxes or assessments shall remain unpaid. The sale shall be the smallest undivided portion of the lot or tract which any person will take and pay the taxes and charges on the whole lot or tract."—*Missaukee Sentinel*.

